

peelable backing strip 20 define an outer sealed container in which the sachet 14, the sealing strip 16 and the gauze strips 18A and 18B are housed. The undersides of the intermediate segments 16B adhere mildly to the adhesive surface 22, whilst the top sides of the intermediate and/or outer segments 16B and 16C are arranged to adhere relatively strongly to the peelable backing strip 20. To this end, the outer segments 16C may be folded over to the top side of the peelable backing strip in the manner illustrated in Figure 4 to obtain additional purchase. In summary, the combined adhesion of the sachet sealing strip 16 to the peelable backing strip is greater than the combined adhesion of the sealing strip 16 both to the cover strip 12 and to the exposable surface 32 of the sachet.

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In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2 and 8-10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the following claims 1, 3-6 and 11 for the pending claims 1, 3-6 and 11, respectively:

Subj

1. (once amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement comprising a patch for covering an area to be treated, and provided with an adhesive surface for allowing the patch to stick to the area, a peelable backing covering the adhesive surface, a discrete dispensing container located fully between the adhesive surface and peelable backing, and accommodating a substance to be dispensed over the area to be treated, an applicator arranged between the patch and the dispensing container and a release agent, the

dispensing container being positioned to cooperate with the release agent and the release agent being arranged to cause the container to open or rupture on removal of the backing such that the substance is released from the opened or ruptured container onto the applicator which facilitates application of the substance to the area to be treated when the patch is stuck to that area.

Subcl 3
3. (twice amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 1 in which the applicator includes at least one absorbent pad secured to the patch along at least one marginal adhering zone, with a non-adhering zone of the pad being interposed between the dispensing container and the peelable backing for receiving the substance to be dispensed from the container after it has ruptured.

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4. (once amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 3, in which the release agent is adhesively secured to the peelable backing, whereby the release agent is arranged to be simultaneously peeled away with the peelable backing to rupture or broach the container.

5. (once amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 4 in which the release agent comprises at least one aperture zone defined in the container, and a removable sealing strip for sealing off the aperture, the sealing strip being arranged to expose the aperture on removal thereof.

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6. (once amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 5 in which the sealing strip extends between the container and non-adhering zones of the pad, whereby the pad is arranged temporarily to splay outwardly to allow the sealing strip to exit as it is peeled away from the container.

b7C Subs
11. (twice amended) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 1 in which the patch and the peelable backing define an outer sealed container within which the dispensing container is housed.

Please add the following new claim 14.

b7C Subs
14. (new) An adhesive dispensing arrangement according to claim 3 wherein the release agent comprises a rupturing aid for removing or broaching a rupturable zone on the container so as to provide an opening in the container.

In the Abstract:

Please substitute the attached abstract for the pending abstract.

In the Drawings:

Please substitute the proposed Figures 1 and 5, submitted under a separate Request herewith, for the pending Figures 1 and 5, respectively.